

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USUN N 02666 250135Z

15

ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ADP-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-10

RSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 AID-20 M-03 USSS-00

SY-10 A-01 EB-11 SCA-01 RSR-01 /201 W

----- 045300

R 240102Z JUL 73

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8852

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2666

EO: 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, UN

SUBJ: BELGIAN PROPOSAL ON TAKING OF HOSTAGES

SUMMARY: WHILE WE RECOGNIZE GOB TRYING TO BE HELPFUL, LATEST SCHEME OF REFERRING MATTER TO THE INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMISSION (ILC) CREATES MORE PROBLEMS THAN IT SOLVES. END SUMMARY.

1. LATEST BELGIAN SUGGESTION SEEMS TO US TO COMBINE THE PITFALLS OF ALL PREVIOUS SCHEMES.

2. IF ILC IS REALLY TO TAKE UP MATTER IN SPRING 1974 IN PREPARATION FOR THE 29TH GA IN THE FALL OF THAT YEAR, IT WILL BE NECESSARY FOR 28TH GA EXPRESSLY TO REQUEST THE ILC TO DO SO. THIS REQUEST COULD LEAST INAPPROPRIATELY BE MADE IN THE COURSE OF DISCUSSION OF THE "REPORT OF THE ILC" ITEM, WHICH IS ALWAYS THE FIRST ITEM ON THE AGENDA OF THE LEGAL COMMITTEE. (ALTERNATIVELY IT COULD BE CONSIDERED AS PART OF THE DISCUSSION OF THE TERRORISM ITEM IN THE LEGAL COMMITTEE OR AS PART OF A NEW ITEM.)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USUN N 02666 250135Z

3. WHENEVER DISCUSSED, THE BELGIAN PROPOSAL WILL

BE THE SUBJECT OF CONSIDERABLE DEBATE AND IN ALL  
LIKELIHOOD STRONG CONTROVERSY. IF TAKEN UP IN  
CONNECTION WITH THE ILC REPORT, THIS DISCUSSION WOULD  
PRECEDE THE LEGAL COMMITTEE'S CONSIDERATION OF THE  
DRAFT CONVENTION ON PROTECTION OF DIPLOMATES.

4. OUR EXPERIENCE LAST YEAR WAS THAT THE WESTERN  
PROPOSAL TO REFER TERRORISM TO THE ILC WAS SO  
CONTROVERSIAL AS NOT EVEN TO BE PUT TO A VOTE. THERE  
IS NO BASIS FOR OPTIMISM THAT THE BELGIAN PROPOSAL  
FOR THE ILC TO PREPARE A CONVENTION AGAINST THE TAKING  
OF HOSTAGES WILL, HOWEVER MERITORIOUS, BE LESS  
CONTROVERSIAL. FOR THESE REASONS, THERE IS CLEARLY  
A RISK IT WILL SUBSTANTIALLY DECREASE THE POSSIBILITY  
OF SUCCESS ON LATER WORK ON CONVENTION ON PROTECTION  
OF DIPLOMATS.  
SCALI

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 JUL 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** kelleyw0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973USUNN02666  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS SCALI  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** USUN NEW YORK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730713/aaaaajfy.tel  
**Line Count:** 78  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION L  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** kelleyw0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09 OCT 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <09-Oct-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <23-Oct-2001 by kelleyw0>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BELGIAN PROPOSAL ON TAKING OF HOSTAGES SUMMARY: WHILE WE RECOGNIZE GOB TRYING TO BE HELPFUL  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PINS, UN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005